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61-4757

6 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Request for Information from State

1. On Friday, 2 June, Mrs. Doris Whitnack, State, called me for an unclassified figure on intra-Bloc military aid since World War II. The information was needed within an hour for the purpose of furnishing answers to questions put to Secretary Rusk by Congress.

2. From material provided in response to a JCS request several weeks ago, an estimate was available. The following, orally transmitted, constituted our response.

Intra-Bloc deliveries of military goods and services since World War II are in rough terms valued at some 10 billion 1960 US dollars. This figure does not represent aid in the sense of the US mutual security program but the delivery of military goods and services, a substantial portion of which -- at least -- has been paid for by the recipient country. Moreover, the equipment was valued as if it were new and unused.

In using this estimate it should be noted that it is subject to quite a wide margin of error -- more so than is the case for most other kinds of estimates.

3. Because we knew that JCS had a higher estimate and viewed ours as a lower limit of a range and because our servicing of the JCS request led us to believe that the JCS report that was to result might also be, or have been, used in a presentation to Congress, Mr. John Warner, Legislative Counsel, contacted JCS. He ascertained that JCS's presentation would be this week and informed General Lemnitzer's office of our proposed response to State.

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